

EPA New England NON-NPL Fact Sheet

Site Type: Site Awaiting NPL Decision (SAND)
Status: Previous Production

Last Released to Public: 01/15/2002

HARCO PROPERTY
WILTON, Connecticut
FAIRFIELD County

Map of Site:

Street Address: 44 OLD MILL
ROAD

Zip Code: 06897
Congressional 05

District(s):
EPA ID #: CTD98387325
8

Site ID #: 0102170
Site Alias:

Description

The Harco Property (property) is located at 44 Old Mill Road in Wilton, Fairfield County, Connecticut. The 41.1-acre property is currently under private ownership. No buildings or structures are located on the property. Heavy vegetation covers 39.1 acres of the property. A 2-acre area previously used for waste disposal, has been cleared and fenced and consists of shrubs, bushes, and wetlands. The property is bordered to the north by a residence and woodlands; to the east by wetlands and the West Branch of the Saugatuck River; to the south by a residence and Honey Hill Road; and to the west by residences.

From 1923 to 1987, the property was used for approximately a year as a silver mine quarry, and then as a dumping area. As a result of the quarry operations, a 2-acre depression was created. The previous landowner allowed Gilbert and Bennett Manufacturing Company (G&B) [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) No. CTD000847764] to backfill the depression with the disposal of 800 cubic yards of dried iron oxide, lime, and calcium sulfate (sludge), which were by-products of G&B's steel wire rod production and acid cleaning process. In 1970, a permit was granted for the disposal of untreated sludge into the 2-acre depression at the property. From 1982 to 1985, the Town of Wilton zoning office issued the property owner three "Cease and Desist" orders to stop future dumping activities at the property. In 1986, the Town of Wilton denied a request for site development and recommended the removal of waste material at the property. In 1990, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entered the property into CERCLIS, and a Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) was initiated.

The estimated population served by public groundwater supply sources within 4-radial miles of the property is 20,071. The nearest public drinking water supply well is located greater than 4-radial miles from the property. The nearest private drinking water supply well is located 500 feet west of the property. Groundwater occurs in overburden at a depth of 0 to 3 feet below ground surface and groundwater flow is to the south. In 1992 and 1994, groundwater samples were collected from private drinking water supply wells of residences located near the property. Analytical results of the groundwater samples indicated the presence of copper, nickel, and zinc. No impacts to nearby groundwater drinking water supply sources are known or suspected.

A ridge runs north/south across the property creating two surface water pathways. Precipitation falling on the west side of the ridge flows overland to Norwalk River. The Norwalk River then flows south into Norwalk Harbor and

Long Island Sound. Precipitation falling on the east side of the ridge flows southeast into a wetland, which discharges to an unnamed stream. Surface water flows from the unnamed stream to West Branch of the Saugatuck River, which flows into Long Island Sound. There are no drinking water intakes located along the 15-mile downstream surface water pathway. Approximately 0.88 miles of wetland frontage and no known Federal- or State-listed endangered or threatened species habitats exist along the 15-mile downstream surface water pathway. Analytical results of surface water and sediment samples collected from the property between 1990 and 1994, indicated the presence of 18 metals (aluminum, arsenic, barium, calcium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, magnesium, manganese, mercury, nickel, potassium, sodium, vanadium, and zinc), one volatile organic compound (VOC) (toluene), and two pesticides (4,4'-DDE and alpha-chlordane). Due to the detection of hazardous substances in the surface water pathway samples collected from the property, impacts to nearby sensitive environments are suspected.

No employees work at the property. The nearest residence is located approximately 500 feet west of the property. Approximately 1,443 people reside within 1-radial mile of the property. There are no residences, schools, or day-care facilities located within 200 feet of the property. No terrestrial sensitive environments are located on the property. Access to the property is unrestricted; however, a 4-foot fence surrounds the 2-acre disposal area and restricts access. Analytical results of soil samples collected between 1990 and 1992 from the 2-acre disposal area indicated the presence of 13 metals (barium, cadmium, calcium, chromium, copper, iron, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver, tin, and zinc), and one VOC (methylene chloride). Analytical results of soil samples collected from the contents of a drum found on the property indicated the presence of five metals (barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, and nickel), and four VOCs (total xylenes, methylene chloride, trichlorofluoromethane, and 1,1,2-trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane). It was established that there were 24,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil on the property. Based on the site observations and conditions, restricted access to the contaminated 2-acre area, and proximity to nearby residential targets, no impacts to nearby residential populations are suspected.

An estimated 22,958 people live within 4-radial miles of the property. Sensitive environments located within 4-radial miles of the property include approximately 2.5 acres of wetlands, one Federally-threatened species habitat, three Federally-endangered species habitats, and three State species of concern habitats. No laboratory qualitative air samples are known to have been collected from the property. Based on available data, no impacts to nearby residential populations or sensitive environments are known or suspected.

On 8 July 1997, a Federal enforcement agreement, "Administrative Order of Consent", between EPA and the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) was signed. This agreement states that the PRP agrees to perform and/or pay for some or all of the response costs involved in the clean up of the property. However, on 18 July 1997, a "Cost Recovery Decision Document" specified EPA's rationale for not pursuing cost recovery actions against the PRP.

Harco Property

Wilton, Connecticut

CERCLIS No. CTD983873258

Site ID No.

0102170

Current Status

Photos

Public Record Locations

OSRR Records and Information Center , 1st Floor, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (HSC), Boston, MA 02109-3912 (617) 918-1440

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